10/591331 IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 AUG 2006

Amendment under PCT Article 19

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A handle having a torque limiter usable in a device having an operating mechanism (5) moving vertically according to the rotation of a handle element (6), the handle element (6) comprising: a cover portion (61) configured to move down by being rotated and stop at the predetermined lowest position; a handle body (62) disposed inside said cover portion and having a lower portion that is connected to said operating mechanism;

said cover portion (61) comprising:

receiving holes (61a) disposed therein;

elastic bodies (7) inserted in said receiving holes (61a) for pushing down said operating mechanism (5);

a transmitting member (8) disposed at one end of said elastic bodies for transmitting the pushing force of said elastic bodies to said handle body;

wherein said elastic bodies push down said operating mechanism (5) with a minimum pushing force to obtain desired effect when said cover portion reaches said predetermined lowest position;

said handle body having on its upper surface a ring-shaped concave portion (62) for engaging therein a transmitted member (10) to which the bottom surface of said transmitting member is pressed,

wherein said transmitted member has a serration on its surface facing said transmitting member or said transmitting member has a serration on its surface facing said transmitted member;

said serration comprises inclined surfaces (81, 101) and vertical surfaces (82, 102) that are alternately arranged in a circumferential

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direction; and

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said inclined surfaces are tilted upwardly along the direction in which said cover portion is rotated to move down.

2. A handle having a torque limiter usable in a device having an operating mechanism (5) moving vertically according to the rotation of a handle element (6), the handle element (6) comprising: a cover portion (61) having a lower portion that is connected to said operating mechanism and configured to move down by being rotated and stop at the predetermined lowest position;

a handle body (62) disposed inside said cover portion; said handle body comprising:

receiving holes (61a) disposed therein;

elastic bodies (7) inserted in said receiving holes (61a) for pushing down said operating mechanism (5);

a transmitting member (8) disposed at one end of each of said elastic bodies for transmitting the pushing force of said elastic bodies to said handle body;

wherein said elastic bodies push down said operating mechanism (5) with a minimum pushing force to obtain desired effect when said cover portion reaches said predetermined lowest position;

said cover portion having therein a ring-shaped concave portion (62a) opening downwardly, said concave portion engaging therein a transmitted member (10) to which the upper surface of said transmitting member is pressed,

wherein said transmitted member has a serration on its surface facing said transmitting member or said transmitting member has a serration on its surface facing said transmitted member;

said serration comprises inclined surfaces (81, 101) and vertical surfaces (82, 102) that are alternately arranged in a circumferential direction; and

said inclined surfaces are tilted upwardly along the direction in which said cover portion is rotated to move down.

- 3. A fluid controller (1) comprising:
- valve casing (2) having fluid channel (21) therein;

valve membrane (3) for opening and closing said fluid channel;

- an operating mechanism (5) having a lower end that is connected to the upper side of said valve membrane;
- a handle element (6) for vertically moving said operating mechanism; said handle element comprising:

a cover portion (61) configured to move down by being rotated and stop at the predetermined lowest position;

a handle body (62) disposed inside said cover portion(61) and having a lower portion that is connected to said operating mechanism;

said cover portion comprising:

receiving holes (61a) disposed therein;

elastic bodies (7) inserted in said receiving holes (61a) for pushing said operating mechanism (5) downwardly;

a transmitting member (8) disposed at one end of said elastic bodies for transmitting the pushing force of said elastic bodies to said handle body;

wherein said elastic bodies push down said operating mechanism (5)

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with a minimum pushing force to obtain desired effect when said cover portion reaches said predetermined lowest position;

said handle body having on its upper surface a ring-shaped concave portion (62) for engaging therein a transmitted member (10) to which the bottom surface of said transmitting member is pressed,

wherein said transmitted member has a serration on its surface facing said transmitting member or said transmitting member has a serration on its surface facing said transmitted member;

said serration has inclined surfaces (81, 101) and vertical surfaces (82, 102) that are alternately arranged in a circumferential direction; and said inclined surfaces are tilted upwardly along a direction in which said cover portion is rotated to move down.

- 4. A fluid controller (1) comprising:
 valve casing (2) having fluid channel (21) therein;
 valve membrane (3) for opening and closing said fluid channel;
 an operating mechanism (5) having a lower end that is connected to
 the upper side of said valve membrane;
- a handle element (6) for vertically moving said operating mechanism; said handle element comprising:

a cover portion (61) configured to move down by being rotated and stop at the predetermined lowest position; a handle body (62) disposed inside said cover portion(61) and having a lower portion that is connected to said operating mechanism;

said handle body comprising:
receiving holes (61a) disposed therein;

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elastic bodies (7) inserted in said receiving holes (61a) for pushing said operating mechanism (5) downwardly;

a transmitting member disposed at one end of each of said elastic bodies for transmitting the pushing force of said elastic bodies to said handle body;

wherein said elastic bodies push down said operating mechanism (5) with a minimum pushing force to obtain desired effect when said cover portion reaches said predetermined lowest position;

said cover portion having therein a ring-shaped concave portion (62a) opening downwardly, said concave portion engaging therein a transmitted member (10) to which the upper surface of said transmitting member is pressed,

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wherein said transmitted member has a serration on its surface facing said transmitting member or said transmitting member has a serration on its surface facing said transmitted member;

said serration has inclined surfaces (81, 101) and vertical surfaces (82, 102) that are alternately arranged in a circumferential direction; and

said inclined surfaces are tilted upwardly along a direction in which said cover portion is rotated to move down.

5. A fluid controller according to either claim 3 or 4,

wherein said transmitting member having on its surface facing said transmitted member a serration in which inclined surfaces (81) and vertical surfaces (82) are alternately arranged in a circumferential direction;

wherein said transmitted member having on its surface facing said transmitting member a serration in which inclined surfaces (81) and vertical surfaces (82) are alternately arranged in a circumferential direction; and

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each of said inclined surfaces of said transmitted member is arranged to be pressed to one of said inclined surfaces of said transmitting member.

6. A fluid controller according to either claim 3 or 4,

wherein said transmitting member comprises a plurality of transmitting pieces having a circular surface facing said transmitted member;

said transmitting pieces are arranged along the circumferential direction of said transmitted member; and

each of said circular surface is configured to be pressed to one of said inclined surfaces of said transmitted member.

7. A fluid controller according to either claim 3 or 4,

wherein said transmitted member comprises a plurality of transmitted pieces having a circular surface facing said transmitting member;

said transmitted pieces are arranged along the circumferential direction of said transmitting member; and

each of said circular surface are arranged to be pressed to one of said inclined surfaces of said transmitting member.

- 8. A fluid controller according to either claim 6 or 7,
 wherein either said plurality of transmitting pieces or said plurality
 of transmitted pieces has a spherical shape.
- 9. A fluid controller according to either claim 3 or 4,
 wherein said receiving holes are configured as a ring-shaped groove;
 and

said elastic bodies comprise springs having the same diameter as said ring-shaped groove.